

## 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Japan

### Statement by Ambassador Daw Penjo, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012

Madam President,

My delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Japan led by H. E. Mr. Hideaki Ueda, Ambassador in-charge of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs, to this session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the Ambassador for the detailed presentation of their National Report, which has been prepared in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

Bhutan highly commends Japan's active engagement in the activities of the Human Rights Council and its significant contributions to discussions on the promotion of human rights at the international level. This clearly demonstrates Japan's unwavering commitment to international human rights standards.

We welcome the importance Japan places on the promotion and protection of the rights of women and children as reflected in its National Report. In this regard, adoption of the "Third Basic Plan for Gender Equality," which provide for a wide range of measures for promotion and protection of women's rights, is highly noteworthy. On the issue of children, we are encouraged by the numerous domestic mechanisms put in place to protect the rights and interests of children.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to **recommend** that Japan continue to further enhance its dialogue with civil societies and implement policies and measures in order to enhance the promotion and protection of rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, who are socially vulnerable.

I thank you, Madam President.